

UNIVERSITY GAZETTE



1886-87

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University Gazette.

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Editorials.

ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVE FELLOWS.

We publish in this issue a letter from Mr. Wilfrid Skaife, B. Ap. Sc., professing to be a reply to our article upon this subject in our issue of November 5th. The subject is a very important one. It is unfortunate that Mr. Skaife did not see fit to treat his subject in a little more serious style: his criticisms are unfair. We endeavoured to treat the subject in a candid and unbiassed spirit; this letter does not meet us in the same spirit, and if it pretends to give the views of those who differ from us in this matter, it is evident that they recognize the truth that the less the question is understood the stronger will their position become. However, we invite our readers to examine carefully Mr. Skaife's letter, and convince themselves to what straits our opponents are put in their endeavour to carry through a measure so little called for and so very objectionable as is this one. Mr. Skaife's letter abounds in inaccuracies. He writes,—"The first statement which I have to challenge is the writer's assumption that the Science men might, on account of their fewness in number, be more likely to consider their own good than that of the University in general." Now the writer of that article assumed nothing of the kind. We do not believe that Science men are any more likely than Arts men, or Law men, or Medical men on account of their fewness in number, to look more towards furthering the interests of their own faculty than those of the University at large. But we do believe that they are just as likely as other men. Now let us explain "by what series of mental gymnastic's we arrive at this remarkable conclusion," merely premising that if our friend Mr. Skaife had trusted more to his reasoning powers, and less to his ability for conjecture, he might perhaps have been more successful in following our argument. The more diverse the interests of the constituency to which a candidate appeals for suffrage the more difficult is it for one man or any set of men to impose their individual projects and schemes upon the electorate. The very fact of there being among the electorate many very different views and opinions upon the matters to be regulated by the man of their choice, will have the effect of selecting a man of broad views, a man thoroughly representative. Now, the smaller the

constituency the less chance is there for this desirable diversity, the greater opportunity is there for hobbyists to acquire complete control, to the injury of the whole body and of themselves. We agree thoroughly with Mr. Skaife that "the very numerical weakness of a faculty makes it more dependent for advancement on the general prosperity of the University:" he seems to imagine that our article was directed against the Science Faculty, while the fact is we wrote, as we then believed and as we still believe, in its best interests.

We are not in a position to inform Mr. Skaife of the nationality of the author of the article referred to, but he probably would feel neither insulted nor slandered to be called both a "Home Ruler" and an "Irishman"; but we in our turn are anxious to know "by what series of mental gymnastics" Mr. Skaife arrives at the conclusion that this gentleman is of Irish extraction? We wrote that the proposed change "would have the appearance of countenancing the fact of divided and antagonistic interests," which the whole tenor of the article goes to prove would be created by this very change itself, but which do not now really exist.

Mr. Skaife next informs us that the promoters of the change have looked well to the effects of the success of their efforts, have, like good engineers, examined the ground upon which their agility is going to land them. It is a pity that he did not incorporate some of the reasons given in the petition of which he speaks, and which are to be so powerful with the Governors, in his letter, for we fail to see in it one single valid objection to the argument of our article; as a criticism on style it is exceedingly good, and on the whole is not a little amusing.

And now our correspondent is astonished at another of our "assumptions," viz., that it would be no evil to have the Science representative elected by the medical graduates. If Mr. Skaife will persist in taking out single sentences in our article and warping their meaning to suit his purpose, we have neither the time nor the inclination to follow his peculiar style of argument. Our contention is that the Representative Fellows should each and all be voted for by the whole body of graduates; Mr. Skaife surely cannot have misunderstood our position: if he did misunderstand it, we fear there is not "enough of the pristine undergraduate vigor" left in him to assist him through an ordinary passage in English with even ordinary *promptitude*, not to mention *despatch*.

When Mr. Skaife has done with witticism he indulges in declarations. First in order he tells us that the majority of Science men repudiate the present

system as being contrary to common sense and justice. Well, on the other hand, a respectable minority of Science men, the great majority of the Medical, Arts and Law men and, as we are credibly informed, some of the Professors do not regard it as contrary to common sense, and see no injustice in it. If Mr. Skaife looks before he leaps, we are bound to say we see little evidence of any very careful ocular investigation before he speaks. How, he asks, could a medical graduate speak with authority as to what was wanted in the Science Faculty? Who, we ask, has ever proposed that a medical graduate should ever be placed in such a position as would necessitate his speaking *with authority* upon what was wanted in the Science Faculty? The present system elects Science men as Science representatives, and we insist there should be no change. No special policy is ever enunciated by the candidates who present themselves for election, and therefore we say that a Science man selected on his general reputation for ability and fitness by the voice of the whole body of the *alumni* is much more likely to be a useful man than is one who would in many cases be the representative of a mere clique. He would represent the University better and would be in just as good a position to speak authoritatively of the needs of his own Faculty.

Unfortunately for the promoters of this scheme representation by number has much to do with the present movement; and now since Mr. Skaife has so much confidence in the grit of himself and his friends, we shall be very much surprised if the graduates in Medicine, Arts and Law do not develop enough of the same commodity to preserve the University as far as possible against the dangers which this agitation involves.

The letter closes with a reference to what Mr. Skaife calls a "curious admission" on our part. The admission is to the effect that if we can do no better we shall take care to retain for ourselves a choice between two evils. This may appear a "curious admission" to those who work for present success, regardless of consequences; but we doubt not, it will be regarded by the best friends of the University as a wise precaution.

HARVARD.

The GAZETTE tenders very sincere congratulations to Harvard on the completion of her 250th year. Her sons have already done great things for their country, and for mankind; but, doubtless, with the prestige which age and increased resources afford, her glory is but begun. The anniversary celebration just held, appears to have been a very enjoyable affair. We give a short description by one who took part:—

The celebration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of Harvard College took place at Cambridge, on the 5th to 9th inst.

The first day, Friday, was devoted to the Law school, the second to the Undergraduates—the morning being filled by literary exercises in Sanders Theatre, a part of the Memorial Hall, erected in memory of those graduates and undergraduates who fell in the war. The oration by Hamilton, an undergraduate, was most effective, and a good promise of his after success, if he do not follow the example of his famous namesake. The day was so wet that the football match in the afternoon, and fireworks in the evening, had to be given up.

Sunday there were sermons by Francis Peabody and Phillip Brooks, in the Chapel, and some fine music.

Monday was graduates' day, and by about ten o'clock all the classes were formed into a long procession, headed by the President and Fellows of the College, the Overseers of the University, and the invited guests. President Cleveland, with his Staff, the Governor of the State, attended by the Lancers, arrived shortly after, and the procession started for Memorial Hall, to hear the Oration by James Russell Lowell, and the Poem by Oliver Wendell Holmes.

There were about 2,600 graduates in the procession, and all of these, besides about four hundred ladies, succeeded in getting at least a footing in the Sanders theatre. The platform was filled with the guests, and the Faculty, in their robes, and the gallery above was taken for the choir, made up of the members of the Glee Club for a number of years back.

Of the Oration and Poem it is needless to speak, as both have been published; but no one reading them can realise the effect produced on an audience so excited and so enthusiastic as that gathered on this occasion.

A dinner followed, and in the evening there were class dinners, a reception in the Gymnasium, and a torchlight procession of the undergraduates and the Law School, besides fireworks on Holmes' Fields.

It was a great rejoicing, which no one will soon forget who was present, and the writer prays, like Macaulay's Roman—

"God send Rome such another day
And send me there to see."

Poetry.

OUT OF THE OLD HOUSE.

We cannot part without a tear,
Old house that sheltered us so long.
Twelve times the birth-night of a year
In thee we welcomed with a song.

Good bye, old friend, good bye the toys
That pleased us in our childish days,
We are no longer girls and boys,
Our feet are in the world's highways.

Thy sturdy walls were ever proof
Against the storms of air and life,
Not once beneath thy sheltering roof
Dwelt sickness, sorrow, want or strife.

God grant that we may live again
In our new home, in days to come,
Twelve years as glad, as free from pain
As thou hast given us, dear old home.

ARTHUR WEIR.

Contributions.

A MCGILL MAN.

BY JAY WOLFE.

Written for the UNIVERSITY GAZETTE.

CHAP. IV.

"Oh! that I were a glove upon that hand,
That I might kiss that cheek!"

—Shak.

In my last chapter I left Cutler standing with his horn in his hand on the window-sill of the young ladies' sleeping apartments at Mrs. Snorter's fashionable school. He had not remained long in this perilous position when a light began to move in the house, and almost immediately he heard the hall-door cautiously opened, and saw a head with a night-cap on protruded. This was Mrs. Snorter, who, having been awakened by the noise and the excitement of the young ladies, had come down to reconnoitre and find out the cause of the disturbance. She had, however, taken the precaution to waken the head governess, and to order her to follow with an instrument of defence, in the shape of an umbrella. Seeing no one near the door, she boldly stepped out into the street and looked up at the window, where she beheld our friend Cutler quietly looking down.

"What are you doing up there, sir? Come down at once. How dare you have the impertinence to climb up on my house. Come down out of that, I tell you."

"But I can't come down, m'am, without a ladder. They have taken away the ladder, and left me here."

"And how dare you go up there, sir? I tell you I'll have you arrested. You must come down at once, sir."

"But I tell you, m'am, again, I can't get down, confound it."

At this point the policeman arrived on the scene, and Cutler began to swear at us inwardly, and to think that the affair was passing a joke. The policeman, having made enquiries as to the cause of the rumpus, and ascertained that the man above was not a burglar, determined to make an arrest, but was somewhat at a loss to know how to come at his prisoner.

"Vat is it you do there, young man?" asked the policeman.

"Arrest him, Mr. Policeman; arrest him, I say," cried Mrs. Snorter indignantly.

"But, madame, I cannot arrest him until he do descend."

"I'm a student," shouts Cutler, "and my name's Smith, and after I got up here they took away a ladder we had, and I couldn't get down. I'm going to get in through this window, and get down through the house."

"Don't do anything of the kind, sir," screamed Mrs. Snorter back to him. "You're a student, are you; I suppose you're a medical student. Well, I'll teach

you a lesson you won't forget for a while. Arrest him, Mr. Policeman; arrest him."

"But, madame, in order that I do arrest him, me I must go up de stairs and catch him by de inside."

This, however, could not be done, because the young ladies had retired for the night, and it would never do to bring a policeman through the room. Cutler would have disregarded this delicate point, and descended by the inside of the house, but he knew that he would be immediately arrested by the policeman on coming down, and put in for the night.

After a consultation and much cogitation, it was determined that the girls should all retire into another room until the arrest was made, and Miss Stickstein, the governess, was sent up to give the necessary orders and superintend the removal. All preparations having been completed, Policeman Jean Baptiste François Xavier was conducted into the house, and was actually half-way up the stairs, when three or four of us, who had remained within ear-shot all the time, rushed up with the ladder and let the poor fellow down. When the majesty of the law made its appearance at the inside of the window, we sang a few lines of that facetious song, "Come away from the window now, I say," and decamped, to spend a few jovial hours at Cavallo's, or some other equally charming resort.

Cutler never fully forgave me for my share in that exploit. He told Miss Jennie Slitherum that I thought myself a very funny fellow, but that he was blown if he saw where the wit and humour came in.

But all this had passed and gone. We were now working hard for the Christmas examinations. Blake was still infatuated with Miss Mayflower, and was making himself as miserable as possible, because he could not manage to get an introduction to her. If this went on, I knew he would never pass any of his examinations, and communed with myself what had better be done. Since the close of the football season Blake had done nothing but try to study, and frequent the theatre, the Queen's Hall, and such high-toned places of amusement, in the hope of getting a glimpse of his beloved. He took absolutely no exercise, and I noticed that his disposition was a little cranky. Cutler, whose wound was still rankling, cynically remarked, "sluggish liver," and I began to believe there was something in the remark.

I made Clooney join the hockey club. I had to join also, or he would not play, although I did not know a hockey stick from a goal-post, or a skate from a flounder. Indeed, there seemed to be very much of the latter fish about my performances. Clooney surprised me. I found he was a practiced skater, and as this is the first requisite of good hockey playing, he soon became proficient in the game, and, from his great size and strength, was noted for his rushes. The sport had almost the desired result. His merry laugh returned, and though I still found him studying, now and then, from a book that was turned upside down, he did not seem so restless. We pulled through the examinations fairly well, and rested on our oars during the holidays. At least Blake did, for he went down home. As for me, I had some back work to study up, which prevented me from accepting Blake's invitation to accompany him. I had hard work re-

fusing, for, as I said, I had developed a brotherly interest in his sister and a warm affection for himself. Another thing that prevented me was a long-standing invitation to a Christmas dinner from an old friend of my father's, who had found me out, and made me promise to spend Christmas Day at his house, in the city.

I felt lonely when Clooney was gone. He had twined himself round my heart even tighter than I thought, but with an effort of will I set to my studies and succeeded in banishing the loneliness. Christmas Day came speedily, and I toggled out to pay my promised visit to Mr. Smithson's, where I was received with due ceremony. What was my surprise to find, as my *vis-a-vis*, Miss Edith Mayflower! How I wished Clooney also had been present. I found her a very agreeable person, with a gift for *repartee*, and if I had not been reminded, by a too truthful mirror, that was on the wall behind her, of my red-headed and stumpy physical man, I should have fallen in love with her myself.

I thought that she flushed up a little when she saw me, but was not sure. Certainly, her subsequent treatment of me was natural, and yet it seemed to me that she must have recognized me as the friend of one whose interest in her had led him to frequent many of the same places of amusement as herself. Perhaps she had not noticed it, but woman is very quick to detect such things. She was an enthusiastic sport, having been trained by her brother, and was well up in the doings of the various athletic clubs of the city. After complimenting us on our fine football team, she went on to speak of the winter season.

"You toboggan, do you not?" she asked, "or are you too studiously inclined?"

"I have few friends in the city," I replied, "with whom to go tobogganing, and that, I believe, is the great pleasure of the sport. Besides, my nights are pretty well occupied by study. What spare time I have I am giving to hockey just now."

"A splendid game," she said. "It's the only game I like to watch. In football I am always afraid some one will get hurt, and lacrosse is very rough. But hockey I can watch for hours. It is so fast and graceful."

I had at that time a very recent recollection of a most graceful attitude of mine, in which my feet had decided to seek opposite ends of the rink, and only came to an agreement when I was likely to become a pair of extended compasses. This agreement was to let the head do their work. I suppose I looked graceful as I ploughed through the ice and snow on one ear and a shoulder for ten yards, till Clooney and a few others stopped my progress by falling upon me. I suppose I looked graceful, but I confess I did not feel so. However, I did not tell Miss Mayflower about this, but entered into a disquisition upon the charms of the game.

During the dinner I learned that Miss Mayflower was about to spend some weeks in Toronto, but intended to be down before the close of the season. She wished to see the match between our team and the Victoria's, as young Mr. Smithson, who turned out to be a cousin of hers, was to captain the latter.

"I have promised him a tuque if he takes the first game," she said.

"He will have to work hard, then," I answered, "for our team has several new men. One, in particular, a chum of mine, will give him all he can do."

"What is his name?" she enquired.

"Clonardo Blake, a young Nova Scotian, a tall, broad-shouldered, handsome fellow."

As I gave this answer I glanced at her. There was that flush again. No, it was only the gaslight. Was it, or was it not? I could not tell.

In the games that followed, Miss Mayflower was one of the merriest. I did not get another chance to converse with her, as old Mr. Smithson drew me into the window and gave me a long account of the times when he and my father were boys together.

When Clooney got back from the holidays, I told him of my good-luck, and promised to get him an introduction, if possible, as soon as Miss Mayflower returned from Toronto. I told him also about the hockey match, but kept quiet as to the prize for the first game that Charley Smithson was to get. The way that Clooney practised at hockey was astonishing. He was first on the ice at every practice and last off. We had to go to the river in those days, and play on the canal at the cost of a few cents an hour. How often I used to get angry at him as he dragged me out of bed some cold winter morning to go and play hockey! In those days our club was always victorious, although not so well established as now. We seldom had the same team two years together, and as most of our men this year were new, I was not surprised when Clooney was elected captain.

The challenge to the Vics. was given and accepted, and the eventful day arrived. By special courtesy—for hockey was not then so well appreciated as now—we were allowed to play in the evening. Both teams were on time, and at 8 o'clock filed out upon the ice amid the plaudits of a goodly audience, many of whom were McGill men, who had come down to encourage their team. I was one of the umpires, and looked round anxiously among the audience to find Miss Mayflower. Clooney was also looking in that direction, and as I saw a flush pass over his bronzed face, I followed his glance, and beheld the young lady chatting with Charley Smithson, who, every inch a hockey player, was laughing at something that was said. Clooney skated back to me. "Now," he said, "now."

I understood him, and skated with him up to where Charley was standing. We were too late, however, for just as we came within ear-shot, Charley bowed and left her, coming himself towards us. We could not avoid hearing her parting words: "Remember, Charley, a tuque for the first game."

"Never! if I know it," muttered Clooney, and the next moment he was arranging preliminaries with Charley. Before the game began, I had an instant's conversation with Miss Mayflower, and then went back to my post at the Victoria's goal. Clooney had not said anything further to me about what he had heard, but I knew by his firm demeanor, and the eager flash of his eyes, that he had nerved himself for a great struggle.—(*To be continued.*)

MENTAL SLAVERY AND MENTAL FREEDOM.

II.

There are three gradations of freedom—the personal, the political, and the mental: and each is entitled to rank amongst the best and dearest interests of humanity.

Personal freedom may perhaps, in some cases, require experience of the contrast of constraint in order to its full enjoyment; and yet there are instances in which it is so prized that men readily sacrifice for it many of the conveniences and advantages of society. Personal freedom is one of the elementary rights of our being. Even men in the lowest stages of civilization, who have been doomed to undergo its loss, have usually felt its deprivation bitterly. Personal freedom is one of those primary rights which should only be interfered with when a man acts so as to prevent the liberty of others. Within those limits law and custom should hold it sacred. The well-being of mind and morals, not less than that of the body, may depend upon its wholesome and judicious exercise.

Political liberty is another gradation in the scale of freedom. A nation is not free which cannot avail itself impartially of the powers of all its subjects. A government is a slave-government that is debarred from employing the fittest agency, from any religious sect or denomination, or from any political party. A community, like an individual, should be self-governed. The achievement of political freedom has been marked, and deservedly, by outbreaks as resplendent as those by which the feelings of the negroes in the West Indies were characterised when they celebrated their Emancipation. We look back to the establishment of American independence as the era of the triumph of a great principle. Throughout these colonies they felt as though they had attained to a condition of freedom beyond their hopes, but from which they were anxiously expecting to reap the noblest advantages. What an overflow of joy there was, not only in France, but also in England, and in all well-constituted minds throughout Europe and the world, when the Bastille fell, and freedom seemed to arise from its ruins in a splendour and glory which promised a long endurance and an ever-extending progress!

Political freedom is the charter of social good. It is a mere fiction to say that any despot—though he were an angel or archangel from heaven—could govern a free country better than it would govern itself; for whatever mistakes be made as to what is the common interest, we may be well assured that in the long-run it will be promoted, and that the delays which take place are useful, inasmuch as they render more distinct to individual minds the good which is sought for adoption by the community. Let free states make their blunders, and adopt for a while a false and erring policy,—let them even be ungrateful to, and unappreciating of, the superior minds among them, who would lead them by a more direct path, still, in the very fact of their freedom and self-government they have before them a means of progress which bears an analogy to the gradual development of the human mind and body, and which secures for them

analogous results. This love of liberty and desire for it aggrandises those who fail of its attainment. Let a nation—it may be a small free state—be crushed by external force; let it fall before barbarian arms and numbers—still, even in its fall, it is dear to humanity. In its own extinction it does something towards the future existence of other free states. Its champions, though they perish, are the world's martyrs: hearts will throb with delight, and beat quicker when their names are repeated: their memory becomes a religion in the world: the places where their heroism was evinced are hallowed ground in all future times; and with the cypresses around their tombs shall be enwreathed and blended the laurels of future victories, and the roses of peaceful enjoyment.

Mental freedom—the highest in this gradation—is less noticeable in its attributes, and less capable of being traced and recorded in its progress. It is very often achieved and exercised in silence. It is a world which goes on in those mental recesses which are more impervious to us than the deepest solitude; accomplished there by the disposition—which, while it respects the authority of numbers, or of antiquity, will not be bound by them; which holds itself at liberty to investigate any topic whatever of human thought; which takes the exercise for granted of every power with which it has been endowed by nature, as the rightful function of its being; and which, unshackled by prejudice or interest any more than by outward control, is still winning its way to a higher, wiser, and purer state. This is a condition of being more fraught with blessedness, although less obvious to notice, than any of those hitherto described. It is only in such a state as this that mind does justice to itself; that it accumulates truth after truth, ever enriching and enlarging its stores of knowledge; that, by its honest exercise, it acquires strength to discern, which at last becomes almost intuitive, between the good and evil, the right and wrong, the true and false; and thus at length there arises within itself an unboastful but deep and enduring sense of enjoyment, such as can spring from no other source whatever. It is a gladness which the heart of the individual alone knows, but which, when he is once acquainted with, he would not exchange for all that the world can offer.

The mind, liberated from ignorance and prejudice—throwing off internal, as well as external restraints—relying upon its own excursiveness for action—does not go loudly and boastfully abroad to proclaim this to the world; but to itself ever and anon there arises that low, musical, and thrilling tone, which makes the individual feel that his lot is a happy one, whatever may be the disadvantages of his external circumstances. This is the state described, in some lines of Sir Henry Wotton, which, in their quaintness, depict a feeling common to all times:

“How happy is he born and taught,
Who serveth not another's will;
Whose armour is his honest thought,
And simple truth his only skill!

*

*

*

This man is freed from servile bands
Of hope to rise, or fear to fall;
Lord of himself, though not of lands;
And having nothing, yet hath all.

Such, also, have been the experience of men who have felt that

“Stone walls do not a dungeon make;
Nor prison bars a cage.”

The mind expatiates beyond the limits of its cell, and all truth, beauty, goodness, and glory in the universe yet remain in some degree its heritage. This is the most inalienable of human blessings. Many have possessed it, too, when the benefit of political freedom, and even personal liberty, was denied. Plato, the greatest name in philosophy—the free Greek, Plato—was once seized by the tyrant of Syracuse, and sold for a slave. He was soon redeemed by his admiring friends and disciples; but supposing this had not been the case, why, even in bonds, the slave would have been Plato still, his mind would, even under such circumstances, have retained its variety, loftiness, and grandeur; it would still have possessed all those qualities which have made him the dispenser of so much improvement and delight to the students of succeeding ages. There is that old, garrulous, deformed *Æsop*, who still appears to talk in our schools by his fables, telling his stories of speaking birds and beasts, and working out by their means so many shrewd lessons for the government of human conduct—that old philosopher was but a Phrygian slave; and the chief notices of his life which remain to us are a list of the masters under which he passed, he having been sold from one to another, and found, no doubt, by his owners to be a very profitable property. *Epictetus*, whose moral maxims commend themselves so much to all who delight in that species of study, was also but a slave. He taught, even while in bonds, the worth of mental liberty, and experienced its blessedness himself while he was teaching it to others. *Homer*, whose odes are to this day so prominent a portion of education, whose observations upon men and manners have been such a treasure of pleasant philosophy—he, though not himself actually a slave, was the descendant of one who was elevated by an arbitrary act from that condition to become a freeman. *Virgil*, the sweet singer of Roman times, sang, but like a bird in a cage, under the subjection to which his country was then reduced. Even the very authors of our religion were not politically free. Jews by birth, they were the subjects of imperial Rome; and in this, as in other instances, there was issued, even from amidst the dreariness of extended domination, or the very depths of gaols and dungeons, a voice to which the heart of man has responded, because it breathed the accents of a liberty beyond the power of despotism.

(To be continued.)

(SCENE—Parish Church vestry not one hundred miles from Dunbar; John, the church officer, is discovered lighting the fire. Enter the minister rubbing his hands.) Minister:—“A damp, cold morning this, John.” (John, who can hardly believe his ears, remains silent.) Minister (evidently thinking that John has not heard):—“I said it was a damp, cold morning.” John:—“So it is, sir, so it is; but dinna sweer, it's God's wull.”

SONG.

(From the French.)

Comrades! in vain ye seek to learn
For whom I burn:
Nor for a kingdom would I dare
Her name declare.

But we will chant in chorus still,
If so you will,
That she I love is blonde and sweet
As blades of wheat.

Whate'er her wayward fancies ask
Becomes my task:
Should she my very life demand,
'Tis in her hand.

The pain of passion unrevealed
Can scarce be healed:
Such pain within my heart I bear
To my despair;

Nathless, I love her all too well
Her name to tell,
And I would sooner die than e'er
Her name declare!

GEO. MURRAY.

McGill News.

Six large packing cases, containing *supplies* for the laboratory, arrived from Amsterdam last week. A Theolog. counted four hundred bottles *inter alia*. What comes from Amsterdam in bottles? Ask us round.

The following is taken from one of the daily papers of this city:—Montrealers will be pleased to learn that the Handbook of Psychology of Prof. J. Clark Murray, has met with very great success, the first edition being nearly exhausted. It is introduced into a number of colleges in Great Britain, and into several universities in the United States—in Michigan, Vassar, Rhode Island, and Western Pennsylvania. Prof. Murray has received a letter from a publisher in Warsaw, asking permission to translate it into Polish, which is a flattering compliment to the merit of the book.

We have received from Sir William Dawson, the following notice:

PRIZE POEM.**RESTORATION OF DERRY CATHEDRAL.**

A Prize of £50 is offered for the best Poem on Derry Cathedral. The composition may be in any recognised measure, and is not to exceed 120 lines. The author is requested to conceal his name; but each Poem is to be distinguished by a motto, and accompanied by a sealed envelope endorsed with the motto, containing the competitor's name. An entrance fee of Ten Shillings is to be forwarded with each Poem. While it is desirable that reference should be made to religious and historical associations, the adjudication will be decided by poetical merit alone.

Poems, marked "Derry Cathedral Prize Poem," are to be lodged with the Secretary, Diocesan Synod Office, Londonderry, on or before February 15, 1887. Unsuccessful Poems cannot be returned.

The following gentlemen have kindly consented to act as judges:—

EDWARD DOWDEN, Esq., Professor of English Literature in the University of Dublin.

W. J. COURTHOPE, Esq., Education Department, Whitehall.

HAROLD A. PERRY, Esq., Fellow of King's College, Cambridge.

ENGINEERING LECTURES.

The Faculty of Applied Science and many visitors were entertained by an excellent lecture by Mr. Wanklyn, M.E. of the G.T.R., on "The Differences Between American and English Locomotives." This gentleman took up each of the chief parts of the locomotive in detail, showing the defects or advantages over the other engine. The gaudy style of many American locomotives make the plain, business-like looking English engine much preferable, though, taking all parts into consideration, the former engines may be considered superior. Every one was delighted with this lecture, though it was quite evident that the gentlemen present, of English training and interest, would not admit the inferiority of the British engine.

On Friday, Nov. 19th, Mr. St. George, City Engineer, gave, from knowledge gained in a long period of practical experience, a valuable lecture on "The Construction of Sewers." These lectures are growing very much in interest, as is evidenced by the full attendance of the engineering students, and the presence of many gentlemen from the city interested in engineering works. The lectures, so far delivered, have been practical and useful, giving an idea to those entering the profession of what may be expected of them.

Societies.

THE UNIVERSITY CLUB.

Invitations to the members of the Club were distributed, asking them to be present at the first meeting in their new house, on Saturday evening, Nov. 20th.

More than fifty members were present, and several invited guests, among whom were Mayor Beaugrand and Dr. Hingston.

The rooms are now all appropriately furnished, and on this occasion were all lighted up, presenting a very lively appearance. What with billiards and chess and cards, and plenty of good reading matter and music, the members passed a most enjoyable evening, and many of them expressed themselves as delighted with the house, and were loud in their praise of the energy and zeal with which the Committee of management have prosecuted their work.

UNDERGRADUATES' LITERARY SOCIETY.

The President, Mr. R. B. Henderson, called the meeting to order at 8.10 p.m. Why cannot the members turn up sharp at 8 o'clock? The Faculty granted permission to place a piano in No. 1 classroom. The authorities refused to grant prizes to the society. A committee reported on some improvements (?) to the programme. Some of these improvements are of very doubtful nature, especially the institution of trials and

a 'House of Commons' (!) by this latter is probably meant a Mock Parliament. The members are notified to turn out in full force to the consideration of these suggestions on December 3rd. LeRossignol read an essay on the 'Study of Nature.' W. A. Cameron explained the difference between Judge Haliburton's ideas on the peculiarities of a kiss and his own experiences. "Was the policy of the government a wise one in regard to the building of the C.P.R.?"—was decided in the affirmative. The speakers were Solandt, Johnson, whose speech was about as good as usual, Eliot and Charters. Gibson, Fry, and Davidson, failed to put in an appearance. There would be no need for *improvements* in the programme if those who are on it would turn up. No question can be made interesting by discussion that has had no preparation, and how often it is that nearly every speaker is unprepared either by his own fault or through the blameworthiness of some defaulters?

Y.M.C.A. MATTERS.

Saturday evening the 20th November, was a memorable night in the history of the University Y.M.C.A. As many as 58 new members, principally from Arts and Medicine, were received. This is a very gratifying report to make at the beginning of the third year of the Association's existence. The membership committee reported that others would likely join at the next meeting in February.

The meeting will also be memorable on account of the action taken regarding a building. By a standing vote the Association decided to go forward with the scheme of erecting a building for the uses of the Association. A building committee was appointed, to consist of eleven students, and four University and business men, which will proceed to prepare plans, to confer with the Board of Governors and select a site, and to collect funds. It is proposed first to raise as large a subscription as possible among the students, and then appeal to the public after the holidays. At the present time a canvass is being made; and so far the project has been well received. A subscription is sought from *every* student, on the ground that the building will be not for the members of the Association only, a limited number, but for every man of the University. The Social Parlor will meet a long felt want for a pleasant resort; the bath-rooms, etc., are also much needed: while certainly a "local habitation" is necessary to attain the objects of this organization.

UNIVERSITY LITERARY SOCIETY.

The subject for the meeting of this Society, on the 19th November, was one that should have brought together a large number of members, but we were disappointed at seeing only ten present. They were Messrs. Selkirk Cross (in the chair), J. R. Murray, Oughtred, Brooke, McGoun, Busteed, Fry, Murphy, Unsworth, and Topp. Mr. Busteed opened the discussion on the question, "Should the Universities be specially Represented in the Provincial Parliaments," showing *inter alia* that if permitted to send members

to the Legislatures they would send men that would worthily represent the interests of education, and who could not fail to be of the greatest use to the country. He strongly advocated University Federation, and maintained that special representation would probably lead to it. Mr. Fry followed on the negative, and said that the only country in which Universities are specially represented is Great Britain, to whose House of Commons nine members are returned for the Universities, namely, two for Oxford, two for Cambridge, two for Dublin, one for London, one for Edinburgh and St. Andrew's jointly, and one for Glasgow and Aberdeen jointly, but that in Great Britain the circumstances were very different from here. Oxford alone, where only resident Masters of Arts and Doctors of Law have votes, having about 5,000 votes. A great many other interests had as much right to have representation, but the system in other countries as well as in this is entirely territorial, the British North America Act not contemplating any other. Mr. Fry was followed by Messrs. Murphy and Murray on the affirmative, and by Messrs. Oughtred and Cross on the negative. Mr. Oughtred thought that in Great Britain the Universities were first given special representation to increase the power of the Established Church, in which, however, Mr. Murray did not agree with him, being of opinion that the reason was that from the large number of residents at them it was virtually representation of a district. The debate having been closed by Mr. Busteed summing up in the affirmative, a vote was taken, and resulted in favour of the negative.

At the meeting held on the 26th of November, a somewhat similar question was discussed in "Is class representation desirable?" Mr. R. C. Smith, the president, occupied the chair, and there were also present the Rev. George Rogers and Messrs. Turner, Ritchie, Oughtred, S. Cross, Budden, C. Barnard, Fry, Downie, Dunton, Murray and Ferguson. Mr. Oughtred, leading in the affirmative, followed John Stuart Mill, from whom he quoted largely, in dividing civilized communities into employers and employed, and shewed that all the large interests of a country, except Labour, are represented, and that an injustice is done the labouring classes in not giving them direct influence in the Legislature. Mr. Budden, for the negative, feared that the interests of the country at large would suffer, and that Parliament would become a mere battle ground for the different interests. These gentlemen were supported, respectively, by the Rev. Mr. Rogers and Mr. S. Cross. The question was decided in the negative. The only other business transacted was the nomination for membership of Mr. Hector Buie.

"That's a nice trick you played me," said a young benedict in a chiding tone to his theatrical friend. "I thought you said that minister of yours would marry us cheap. The old beggar braced me for twenty dollars."

"Hang it all!" was the reply; "I forgot to give you the tip. You should have said you were one of the profession, and you would have got wholesale rates."

Sporting.

McGILL *VERSUS* QUEENS.

The match between "Varsity" and McGill having been postponed until Saturday the 13th inst, and McGill football team not wishing to lose another Saturday match, made arrangements to play Queen's University football team on Saturday the 6th, and to play Ottawa City on the following Monday. On Friday night then the following team, left for Kingston by the C.P.R.

Backs—Hamilton and Blanchard.

Half Backs—MacLean and Lucas.

Quarter Backs—Dunlop and McDonell, (Captain.)

Forwards—Henderson, Drummond, Palmer, Kirby, Robertson, Springle, May, McNutt, Hughes.

The trip up was most delightful, banjo solos, songs speeches, etc., giving entertainment to those on board the train and making it very enjoyable for all alike.

At 6 a.m. on Saturday morning we arrived at Kingston, and found a snowstorm awaiting us there. Having arrived at the hotel, those composing the team sought some repose, not much sleep having been obtained the night before, notwithstanding the sweet lullaby of a banjo trying its soothing effect.

Breakfast being over the boys, accompanied by Kingston friends, proceeded to view the sights, notwithstanding the snowstorm. At 2.30, a buss, kindly supplied by Queen's, arrived at the hotel and drove the team to the College, whence they soon proceeded to the campus.

The following composed the team from Queens.

Back—E. Pirie.

Half Backs.—H. Pirie and Logie, (Captain.)

Quarter Backs—Chown and Farrell,

Forwards—Bain, White, McFarlane, Harvie, Echlin, Richards, Pratt, Rankine, McGannon and Gandier.

There was a blinding snowstorm blowing from the North and North East, and the campus being situated on high ground and exposed, the full force of the cold and wind was felt.

McGill having lost the toss, were obliged to play against the wind, so the ball was kicked off by McDonell. It was immediately returned by Queen's half backs, and, aided by wind, landed close to McGill goal.

Here a series of scrimmages followed, until our boys by keeping the ball on the ground, and thus dribbling it along, got it up to the middle of the field, where they kept it until half time was called. Once during this half a touch down was claimed by Queen's, but was disallowed on account of a foul which preceded it. For Queen's side Bain, Farrell, Logie and Rankine were conspicuous; while McDonell, Hughes, McLean, Kirby and Drummond played rattling games for McGill.

When half time was called, neither side had scored anything. The players were by this time commencing to feel the cold, so the game was proceeded with, without the usual intermission.

During the second half McGill had the wind in her favour, and it was soon seen that the Queen's men were not as proficient in playing the ground game as

their opponents, the ball being frequently passed back from scrimmage and entrusted to the gentle breezes, by a McGill back. Thus McGill gradually forced the ball down the field, until one of our boys, by dribbling this scrimmage, kicked the ball behind the line, where it was touched down by Dunlop. A foul being claimed, a touch was given without the privilege of a try. After this Queen's were compelled to rouge twice, and by a brilliant piece of play by Robertson and McDonell, a touch was secured by the latter, but on account of the heavy state of the ball and the height of the wind, the kick for goal proved a failure.

Soon after this time was called, the game standing, McGill 10 points to Queen's 0.

Shortly after halftime, Farrell, one of the pluckiest men on the field, had to retire, having unfortunately wrenched his knee. The game on the whole was rather unsatisfactory, the deep snow and cold wind making any very good play impossible, but every man worked hard for his own side.

It was amusing to an outsider to see the w(rye) faces of some of the players after the game was over, when they were trying to hug each other to keep warm.

Mr. W. C. Carruthers acted as referee, most acceptably, while cadets Clapp and Gunn of the R.M.C. looked after the interests of McGill and Queen's respectively.

After the game, a telegram was received from Ottawa withdrawing the match on account of the snow, so the boys having partaken of dinner, left for Montreal by the 8 p.m. train, having spent a most enjoyable time through the kindness of the boys from Queen's and the R.M.C.

TORONTO UNIVERSITY *VS.* MCGILL.

Of all the football matches played during a season by our College Club, no one excites greater interest than the inter-collegiate game with Toronto 'Varsity. Last year, this club proved altogether too much for our boys, and this year, had tied the Ottawa College. In the meanwhile the excellent new material in our club, together with the good work the older members were doing, aroused full hopes that old McGill would line up to win this time. City teams have an immense advantage over college men, in that they have a much longer time to practice, while year after year the same men play together, thus building up a combined team play, which is almost invincible to a college club, with limited practice and a constantly changing membership.

This year McGill made a wise and fortunate selection in Captain MacDonell, who has played his men with system and good judgment, thus winning their confidence and obedience. In fact, they are ready to be ruled even more firmly and "dogmatically."

The day for this game proved cold and stormy, with several inches of snow on the field, but not so bad as the Saturday spent in Kingston. Game was called at 3.15, to play two half-hours, 'Varsity having the kick off, slightly against the wind. They held their ground thus gained when a series of kicks by Lucas, McLean and MacDonell sent the ball up to the 'Varsity twenty-five yards, where a long, steady scrimmage took place, neither side gaining until 'Varsity made a break and

the ball was kicked down to McGill's half-backs, Lucas was rather slow and was tackled. But a moment later he secured a free kick, when he made a fine kick up along the touch line. The 'Varsity back seemed to be "struck all of a heap" when he was magnificently tackled by MacDonell before he could begin to try to kick the ball back. With this ground secured, McGill soon secured a safety touch. In the second half McGill got a good start by a fine kick from Drummond, and a touch in goal, soon followed by a rouge, now gave McGill 4 points to 0. 'Varsity now made a rush up the field and Blanchard, who perhaps was playing up too close, was only able to kick the ball into touch at his twenty-five yards line, instead of down the field. A long, hard fought scrimmage ensued, McGill slowly losing ground, and resulting in a rouge against them. On the kick off from the rouge, not much was gained, and again a perpetual, evenly balanced scrimmage occurred, when the men kept circling around as they got shoved off-side, and ran around to again push for all they were worth. The ball at last got out into the fresh air, and started over to the opposite side of the field, and from this time to the end of half time, McGill slowly but surely drove the Torontos back, and the game ended by their winning by 4 to 1.

The 'Varsity played a splendid game, though sometimes inclined to lie on the ball, and they fought well for every inch. Their Captain, McLean, is a host in himself, tho' not a giant in size, while Senkler, who did so much damage to our boys last year, did well, but was well looked after.

For McGill every one played to win, and not one was seen to funk. They tackled very fast, and were on the ball constantly, as very little kicking or dribbling was indulged in. Drummond played a fine centre scrimmage; 'Varsity could not get the ball away from him, so their centre-man tried to outmatch him by getting his head hard against Drummond's dinner-basket, and then lifting him up, but to no avail. Robertson, Hughes and Springle played a fast, sure game on the wings, while the forwards, the stronghold of the McGill club, every one of them played like Trojans. Dunlop at quarter-back played his best game of the season, while McLean proved himself a valuable addition to the team. The full backs had very little to do, but nothing got past them. One very great improvement on the part of McGill, was that, apart from the Captain, little was heard from the men, but even yet this can be greatly bettered. There was very little rough play, and the 'Varsity boys all said it had been a pleasure to play this game, though the fates were against them.

In the evening the two clubs, with a goodly number of friends, assembled and enjoyed a very pleasant dinner at the Richelieu, and we hope our visitors went home with kindly feelings towards the football club of McGill.

The following are the players for McGill.

Forwards—May, Palmer, Kirby, Henderson, Drummond, McNutt, Springle.

Wings—Robertson and Hughes.

Quarter Backs—MacDonell, (Captain) and Dunlop.

Half Backs—Lucas and McLean.

Full Backs—Hamilton and Blanchard.

Personals.

Trenholme, Science '85, has returned from B. C.

Leading question, Editorial Rooms:—Where's Wheeler?

A. H. U., the unpronounceable, spent Thanksgiving in Montreal.

James Gibson, Med. '86, has been appointed House Surgeon to the Burlington Hospital, Vermont.

Harry Hamilton, the distinguished mineral specialist, has returned to Montreal. He plays billiards at the Club.

Corsan, Med. '85, House Surgeon in the Montreal General Hospital, is rapidly convalescing from an attack of typhoid fever.

H. M. Cockfield, Arts '82, is head-master of the Ann St. School, City. He is now the proud possessor of a wife and a gold-headed cane.

Major Moffatt, Science '84, has been selected to "lay out" the position of the bridge which the C. P. R. is about to build over the Sault Ste. Marie. He'll soon have his majority.

Rev. W. H. Warriner of Bowmanville, Gold Medallist in English in '77, is now delivering a course of lectures on Old Testament Prophecy to the students of the Congregational College.

All the friends of Mr. J. E. May, '88 Science, learn with deep regret the loss of his father, Mr. Geo. May, of Ottawa. May had gone home to spend his Thanksgiving, when his father was taken worse with his disease—Bright's Disease—and, on Monday, expired. All the students will offer their sincere sympathy in his great bereavement, as all who know Mr. May hold him in the greatest respect and esteem.

Between the Lectures.

"WITNESS, did you ever see the prisoner at the bar?" "Oh, yes; that's where I got acquainted with him."

OFFICE boy to editor: "There is a man outside what says he has a bill he wants to present." Editor: "Say to him that his manuscript is respectfully declined."

ARCHBISHOP WHATELY once startled his hearers by asking, "If the devil lost his tail, where would he go to find a new one?" and without waiting for others to guess, replied, "To a gin palace, for bad spirits are re-tailed there."

"Now tell me why I punished you?" said a stern father, who had painfully found it necessary to punish his son Johnnie. "That's it, sobbed Johnnie, you've nearly pounded the life out of me, and now you don't know why you did it."

Teacher—"Tommy, can you define 'drink'?"

Tommy—"No, mum."

Teacher—"Well, can you tell me the future tense of 'he drinks'?"

Tommy—"He is drunk."

HE WAS ENGAGED.

Col. Nick Bell, superintendent of foreign mails, went to St. Louis last week as an attraction at the exposition, says the *Washington Critic*, and, being desirous of looking his best, he concluded to add a new pair of trousers to his otherwise complete wardrobe. He was so busy getting matters in shape to leave, that he had no time to go to a clothing store, so he ordered a half dozen or more pairs sent to his office to try on. They came, and the superintendent shut himself up for a few moments in order to make a selection. The door had scarcely been barred before a committee of women on some charitable mission applied to see him.

"You can't see him, madam," said the door-keeper to the spokeswoman.

"We must see him," she persisted, woman-like.

"But you can't. He gave me instructions particular, that nobody was to see him till he told me they might."

"That's all right," she said, coaxingly; but we are not after office or influence, or on any official business whatever."

"Don't make no difference ma'am. Instructions is instructions, and what the boss says goes every time."

"Well, sir," she said, finally, with all the others talking at the same time, "we should like to know why a public officer refuses in this arbitrary manner to be seen."

"Arbitrary thunder!" exclaimed the door-keeper, provoked into emphasis, "that's got nothin' to do with it. He's tryin' on a pair of pants, but if you want to see him you may, only you've got to slip in on him mighty quick, for he's one of the diffidentest men in this whole town."

The way that committee went down to the hall and out of sight reminded the doorkeeper of how the Yankees got away from the rebs at the first battle of Bull Run.

College World.

The Faculty of Amherst is entirely composed of graduates of that institution.

At the beginning of the year there were, in the Library of Colby University, 20,000 volumes.

At Cornell University last year's freshman class "upon analysis gave ten per cent." of women.

The Minister of Education has decided against the admission into the Prussian universities of women as students.

There are 18,000 ladies in the different colleges in the States; but co-education is impracticable,—“a ridiculous experiment!”

The students of Oberlin College have contributed \$2,500 towards their gymnasium. Where are the Y.M.C.A. subscription lists?

The *Colby Echo* congratulates itself on its success as a bi-weekly. Judging from the appearance of the copies we have received, the congratulation is well merited.

The following are the exchanges up to date:—*Acta Victoriana*, *Archon*, *Atlantis*, *Beacon*, *Chaddock*, *Colby Echo*, *College Student*, *Dalhousie Gazette*, *Droghedean*, *Foster Academy Review*, *Harvard Advocate*, *Knox College Monthly*, *Knox College Record*, *Our School Times*, *Portfolio*, *Sunbeam*, *Tuftsian*, *University Cynic*, *University Monthly*, *Varsity*.

The *Harvard Advocate* contains the following, which ought to be more widely known:—The larger liberties and privileges now allowed to the students, as well as the increased age and advanced standard of requirements for admission, have put the men upon their honour, and have served greatly to engender a spirit of self-respect, which is the life and strength of the University.

In some colleges there is the very laudable practice of depositing annually "Class Albums," each of which contains a photo. of every graduate of the year. Among all the friends to be remembered "in the spring" when comes the photo-giving time, is there no room for our Alma Mater—no room for those who are to fill our places in the world of McGill? Let us see if there will be an "Album of '87."

The *Varsity* has urged on the Toronto boys a centralization of their Athletic Societies, and even forestalls McGill in an attempt to create a union among the various Literary and Scientific societies. The success of our amalgamation of the various sporting clubs in the Athletic Association may give a precedent to Toronto. While the movement now on foot in McGill towards a union of the rest of the Societies may receive help from the knowledge that the need of such a union is felt in other places.

THE Yale Sophomores and Freshmen had a fine time on October 9th at their baseball game on the athletic field. Both classes turned out in full force and cheered their nines lustily. The Sophomores had things all their own way in the game. Dann, the catcher of last year's University team, pitched for them, and the Freshmen failed to hit him at all. There is some good material in their nine, but the score stood: Sophomores, 10; Freshmen, 5.

After the game the real fun began. The '89 men lined up on both sides of the gate, and the '90 men, formed in a solid column four abreast, tried to force their way out. For half a minute the phalanx kept its form and then it went to pieces, canvas-jacketed Sophomores and Freshmen struggling in one confused mass. It was a "shirting" rush from the word go, and in two minutes a Freshmen was out of the battle, his attire being reduced to a short canvas jacket, a pair of stockings, and a pair of tennis shoes. His companions grouped around him until somebody loaned him an ulster. For a quarter of a mile the straggling contest was kept up, the Freshmen bearing most of the losses. A couple of hacks were pressed into service and tailed up the procession, bearing young gentlemen who were left with an average of one garment apiece. There was more "shirting" done than at any rush for years before, but both classes kept their good humor through it all.

Correspondence.

LAW FACULTY.

Editors University Gazette:—

DEAR SIRs,—In your issue of the 17th November, appeared an editorial under the above title, in the course of which you make the following remarks: "The reason assigned for not having some of the lectures delivered in the morning, was not such as a strong Faculty would consider for a moment."

In the absence of *the reason* being assigned, perhaps you will permit me to draw your attention to the fact that the Faculty acted in the best interests of the students, several of whom would be practically excluded from the course if any lectures were delivered in the morning.

LAW STUDENT.

[Then, in that case, the best interests of several of the students do not coincide with the best interests of the Faculty. The advantage of morning lectures *per se* is acknowledged on all sides. The advantage was foregone to meet the requirements of several students, who could not attend morning lectures. A strong Faculty would not likely find itself obliged to suit its hours of lectures to the wants of a few men, in order to avoid lecturing to empty benches.—EDS.]

OUR BANQUETS.

To the Editors University Gazette.

DEAR SIRs,—A brief comparison of the management of the "Laval" banquet with that of our own may be of interest and utility in regard to the next Annual Dinner of McGill.

In the first place, I was much surprised to find that for the sum of one dollar, or about half our cost, they had got up a banquet, fully equal, if not superior to any we have had. In addition to the supper, each guest was supplied with wine, which must have considerably increased the cost. The Menu and Programme were a first-class piece of work. The next thing that attracted me was their good judgment in regard to toasts. Leaving out the objectionable part—the toast of Leo XIII. preceding that of the Queen—the arrangement was perfect. Five toasts only were down on the programme, and short, witty speeches the order of the evening. The contrast was very marked between this and the endless toasts and tedious harangues of our last dinner.

If I might offer a few suggestions, they would be these: First, that the toasts number no more than five, such as—

1. Our Country and Our Queen.
2. Sister Universities.
3. Corporation and Professors.
4. Sister Faculties.
5. Lady Undergraduates.

I favor the omission of the indefinite and unsatisfactory toast, "The Ladies." In regard to No. 3, that not more than four be requested to speak, and that five-minute speeches rule the evening. The President of the Laval banquet had a small bell to regulate this.

My second suggestion is in regard to the entertainment of the guests. Speeches are tiresome, unless agreeably varied, and I think that a thoroughly good programme, instrumental and vocal, should be got up by a committee of men acquainted with music.

Give the performers lots of time to prepare, and avoid the slipshod methods of last year.

HUGH M. PATTON.

Montreal, Nov. 25th, 1886.

FACULTY REPRESENTATION.

To the Editors University Gazette:—

DEAR SIRs,—As one of the originators of the present movement among Science men relative to a change in the mode of election of Representative Fellows, I crave space to reply to the leading article of your last issue.

To begin with, allow me to state that I was pleased, indeed, to see how ably the writer handled his very weak case, and also to know that even he could not advance any new or valid arguments against the movement. Also, I was most agreeably astonished to find that I was not called by any harder name than a "Home Ruler," for I was fully prepared to be handled after last year's style, and expected to be dubbed anything from a low caste politician to a body snatcher. Everybody will be glad to see that the GAZETTE has turned over a new leaf, to correspond with its new title page.

The first statement which I have to challenge is the writer's assumption that the Science men might, on account of their fewness in number, be more likely to consider their own good than that of the University in general. By what series of mental gymnastics he arrives at this remarkable conclusion, I am unable to conjecture. Let me point out that the very numerical weakness of a faculty makes it more dependent for advancement on the general prosperity of the University than it would be were it stronger, and that this is well known to Science men.

Next, the writer speaks of the injury which might be done by appearing to countenance something which he admits does not exist, but which he calls a fact! Surely the writer is of Irish extraction.

I will deal later with the point he raises here concerning antagonistic interests; and now allow me to say in reply to his friendly warning, to look before we leap, that we have looked, and like good engineers, carefully surveyed the ground we have taken up. Our petition shows reasons why the desired change should take place, which we are sure the governors of the University will think worthy of very serious consideration.

Permit me, next to express my astonishment at the very calm way in which the writer assumes that were the Science representative elected by medical graduates, it would not be an evil state of affairs, and that there would be no complaint by the Faculty, as a whole, but only by the defeated candidate. Is there anybody at McGill, except the writer, who would first submit to such a thing, and then call the man so elected a

representative of his faculty? If he has any desire to try what the effect of such a course would be, let him propose, at a general meeting of medicals, that their representative be in the future elected by the law graduates. He will find enough of their pristine undergraduate vigor left to assist his passage through the nearest window with promptitude and despatch. I can speak for the vast majority of Science men when I say that they utterly repudiate such a system, as being contrary to common sense and justice, and the spirit of the University statutes which deal with the elections in question. For it must be patent to everybody that, when these statutes were framed, adequate representation of the several interests of the Faculties was aimed at, and it is also very evident that graduates in any particular faculty are most fitted to judge who among them is best able to represent these interests. The writer lays great stress on the fact of there being no antagonistic interests, nor any special ones separable from the general welfare of the University. There are, indeed, no antagonistic interests, and let us hope there never will be; but cannot he see that questions must arise at corporation meetings, concerning the affairs of the different faculties, in which the respective representatives are best qualified to speak? Take, for instance, the question of raising the standard of matriculation. How could a medical graduate speak with authority as to what was wanted in the Science Faculty? This is only one out of a hundred instances which might be quoted to show that truly representative men are needed by each faculty; and who can judge better than their fellow graduates of their ability to handle such and similar matters?

Towards the end of the article the writer raises the question of representation by number which has nothing to do with the present movement, although he seems to think it has, for in his last paragraph the two issues are inextricably mixed. He says moreover, practically, that if the Science men have sufficient grit to stick to their guns and fight the battle out, he would allow each faculty to elect its own representatives in proportion to the number of graduates. This is a curious admission, seeing he has already termed election by faculties both disadvantageous and injurious. He may rest assured that the Science men will see the matter through now, and are glad to be able to show the other faculties the way.

Yours very truly,

WILFRID SKAIFE, B.A.Sc.

MONTREAL, November 17th, 1886.

FACULTY CENSORSHIP OVER UNDERGRADUATE DEBATES.

Editors University Gazette:—

SIRS,—We have waited patiently for some of your polished and literary correspondents to express their views upon the matter of censorship exercised by the Faculty of Arts over the subjects of debate before the Undergraduates' Literary Society, in the absence of which, I most humbly beg to place my opinion on record. A few weeks ago a subject for discussion was

chosen by the committee and posted on the notice-board, as usual, but it had scarcely been there one hour when it was ordered down. In this act, on the part of our instructors, there seems to me to be a serious principle involved. It is surely not desirable to revive the censorial laws of Russia in this land of liberty, in this age of advancement and freedom of speech! When we first entered McGill, we came ready to maintain against any opponent that our University would do all it possibly could to make her students better men and women; that anything tending to enlarge their views, cultivate independence of thought and prepare them for future usefulness would be recommended and cherished, anything to the contrary would be discountenanced and expugned. I must confess that when I learned that our Literary Society was not allowed to discuss a question which is of the utmost importance to every intelligent man in this province, a question which admits of two opinions, and on either side of which are ranged the ablest men of our country, I say, I must confess that my zeal received an unexpected blow. I cannot think that my youthful assumption was entirely wrong, but decided to inquire into the facts of the case.

That the faculty admits the usefulness of our Literary Society is evident from the fact of its granting the use of one of the lecture-rooms in the college building for its sessions. And, Sirs, here is a reason advanced by some why we should meekly submit to the rulings of the faculty in this matter. They say we are given the use of a room, free light and heat, and the faculty simply claim the right of judging the fitness or unfitness of any question for debate; if, they say, we do not like this we are at liberty to find another room. If the college buildings were *private* property this theory would be all right, but they are not, and, therefore, it is all wrong. If by placing the rooms of any of the college buildings at the services of the students is going to assist in the *proper* education of the undergraduates without conflicting with higher interests, (and what higher interest has any university?) to my mind the faculty is as much in duty bound to grant them those rooms as the professors are in duty bound to give them the benefit of their most careful observation and research on the subject of their lectures.

And now, Sirs, I shall give the avowed reasons of the faculty for exercising its censorship as stated by our much-esteemed Principal, Sir Wm. Dawson. In sense he says, that the University is putting forth energetic efforts to secure endowments to further perfect our educational course. He claims that men who have strong feelings on questions of the day might be prejudiced against the college, if a report that the students had given a verdict contrary to their conviction, came to their notice. Now, Sirs, to decide a question which admits of two opinions in favour of one view is more or less likely to be objectionable to those who hold an opposite view, according to the standing of those who decide.

But any man who reflects would not think of holding a Faculty responsible for the opinion of its undergraduates as *expressed in debate*. As I said before, the Faculty admit the general usefulness of our

Society, and now it will be seen that by advancing the argument which I have just given, it practically admits that under *certain* circumstances it would be perfectly right to have the privileges we claim, or in other words, that to discuss public questions in our debates is not an evil in itself. Now, I would ask, why should a man be allowed to give money to an institution such as ours without giving all the information necessary about its working. There is enough right about McGill to make us proud of her, and as Carlyle says, "*success attends an act in exact proportion as it is right.*" More than one Society such as ours have left the college buildings and held their meeting in some hall in the city where they could discuss what they pleased, and I have not heard one of these express a regret at their action. And, Sirs, you can remember what a fight your GAZETTE had for its existence; but it was a fight which terminated in a glorious victory. You have raised it to a very respectable position, among the best college journals of this continent, notwithstanding the efforts to crush it. We, therefore, while imbued with deep respect for the Principal and Faculty, and recognizing the obligations which this province owes them, must dissent most emphatically from the present stand which they take on this important question. The time of our young men is too precious to wait longer for a change, and their future work far too important to leave one stone unturned which shall help on the good work of sound preparation.

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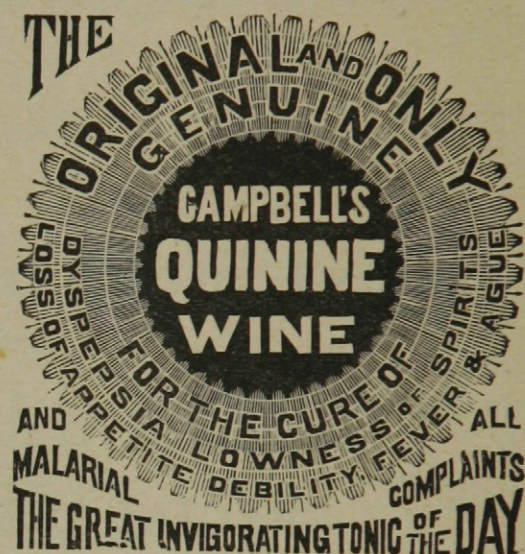
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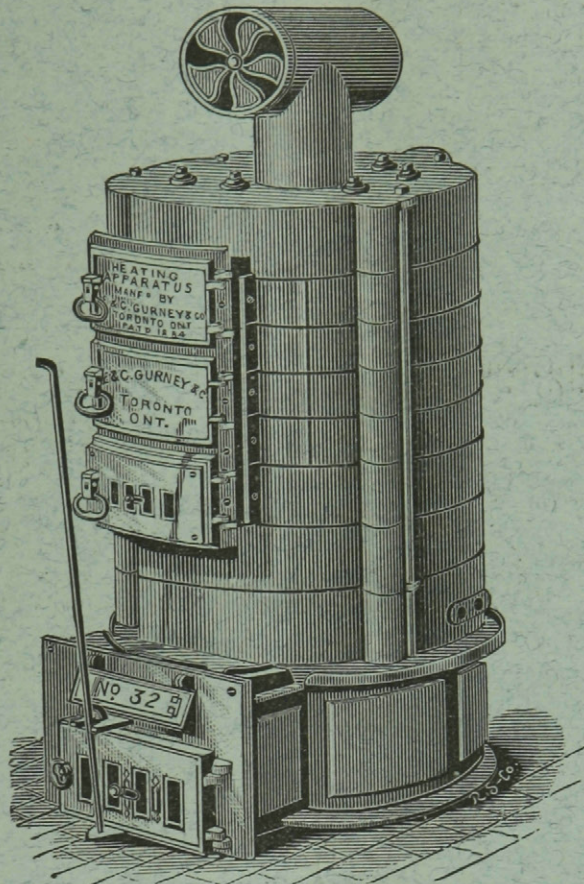
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